

REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating the presence of allowable subject matter.

Applicant has combined the limitations of claims 2 and 3 into claims 1 and 13 and has amended the remaining claims to provide correct dependency. Applicant has also added new claim 14 to cover subject matter disclosed at page 16, lines 3-11, of the specification.

In response to the objection in paragraph 4 of the Action, applicant has amended claims 1 and 13 to provide antecedent basis. Applicant thanks the Examiner for the helpful suggestion in paragraph 5 of the Action and has amended claims 1 and 13 to recite the cuff or its use as positive elements of the invention as claimed. The objection in paragraph 6 of the Action is now moot.

Applicant has amended claim 8 in response to the Examiner's suggestions, which seem to be directed more to enablement than to claim definiteness. If the amendments to claim 8 do not meet the Examiner's expectations, the courtesy of a telephone call to the undersigned to discuss alternative modes of expression would be appreciated.

Since the limitations of claims 2 and 3 are now found in claims 1 and 13, the rejection of claims 1, 2, 5-7 and 13 as anticipated by Nishibayashi is now moot, as are the rejections of claims 9 and 10 on Nishibayashi in view of Oka and of claim 12 on Nishibayashi in view of Takatsu, because the Examiner recognizes that none of these references discloses or suggests the "waveform distortion corrector correcting said waveform parameter to cancel an error introduced by a distortion of a detected pulse wave relative to said intra-arterial waveform into systolic blood pressure calculated" of claim 3.

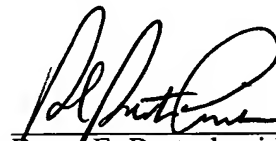
Claims 3, 5/3, 6/3, 7/3, 9/3, 10/3 and 12/3 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) variously on Nishibayashi in view of Miyazaki, further in view of Oka or Takatsu. The Examiner cites Miyazaki's filter 22 as corresponding to the claimed wavefront distortion corrector as recited in claim 3. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Miyazaki's band pass filter 22 functions to remove noise interposed on a pulse wave signal by permitting only a 1 to 10 Hz component of the pressure signal SP (i.e., a signal indicative of the pulse wave itself) to pass, as explained at column 5, line 55, through column 6, line 6. Miyazaki's band pass filter does not, and is not disclosed to, correct a pulse wave *parameter* that, as made clear by claim 3, has already been calculated from the detected pulse waves and is not a pulse wave signal itself. Miyazaki and the remaining references of record do not disclose or suggest the waveform parameter correction set forth in the rejected claims. These obviousness rejections should be withdrawn.

Since the prior art of record does not disclose or suggest the subject matter of the claims pending in this application, early action allowing claims 1 and 4-14 is solicited.

In the event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing Docket No. 245402009300.

Respectfully submitted,



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Dated: November 3, 2005

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